The Logger's Bark
RADIO CLUB of TACOMA

December, 2007 Volume 3, Issue 12 Copyright RCT

FROM THE EDITOR...

IN THIS ISSUE

Page 2/7: Minutes

Page 8: Ham Radio: WHY?

Page 10 Sparky

Page 12: Shack 'O the Month:W7EXC

Page 13: VE Report & Birthdays

Page 14/15: Fine print pages.

Hello Again Club members…

Elections are over and here are the results:

Election of Officers:
The Election committee completed the annual election ballot count and announced the election results:

Elected Vice President; Jill Palmer K7JIL
Elected Secretary; Larry Watson KD4VOM
Elected Board; Frank Palmer AC7JY
Elected Board; Al Burleson K7HW
Elected Board; Gary Kohtala K7EK

There were 150 valid ballots received and counted.

Please note that while 150 ballots were received and counted, there are approximately 294 members in good standing in this club. While I try not to beat you guys and gals up, this is only 51 percent returns!

I guess that the other 49 percent don't care…

On the good side though, 51 percent turnout is much better than usual for local and national elections, where it really counts!

Just in case someone missed it; on the right, We can see Pete KK7QW at the microphone During the ARRL Sweepstakes contest that We did at the clubhouse the week-end of 17-18 November 2007.

Yep, that's actually Pete on the mic on HF!

73 All!
Gary WG7X
PS: Merry Christmas, Y'All!

Board Meeting Minutes
7 November, 2007

The 7 November 2007 Board meeting was held at the Radio Club of Tacoma club house. President Randy Thompson AD7FF called the meeting to order.

Officers and board members present:
President: Randy Thompson -- AD7FF
Secretary: Larry Watson -- KD4VOM
Treasurer: Gary McFadden – K7UPG
Board Member: Alan Lentz – W7AML
Board Member: Bob Purdom – AD7LJ
Board Member: Peter Baker – AD7EU
Board Member: Nick Winter – K7MO

A sign in sheet with the names of members and guests is attached. There were 14 names on the attendance roster.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS:

Corrected by E-mail

SECRETARY'S REPORT: Larry Watson – KD4VOM

Correspondence: Larry reported that we have received over 120 election ballots, as well as the usual banks and utility bill statements and a couple of QSL cards. We have a notice to replace the plates and reregister one of the Club's generators. We've also received notice from the State Department of acceptance of our charitable exemption status.

A copy of the correspondence log is attached to the original copy of the minutes.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Gary McFadden – K7UPG

Gary provided the monthly financial income and expense report. John AC7WW noted that several of the expense entries were listed as VE account entries when in fact they were normal Club expenses, e.g., Club member badge purchases.

There was a discussion on the processing of the VE account. John AC7WW noted that he has not been receiving the VE account statements and Gary K7UPG did not know that the statements went to John automatically. Future VE account statements will be passed through the Treasurer to John.

There was also a brief discussion on the Hamfest account bank statements, which, like the VE statements are processed through the Treasurer and provided to the Hamfest manager.

A copy of the Monthly financial statement is attached to the original copy of the minutes.

ILLNESS AND SILENT KEY: Jill K7JIL was unable to attend the meeting as she was Ill, and Frank AC7JY is recovering from knee surgery. Steve KD7UBE, who was present at the meeting is also recovering from recent surgery.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Membership: Rick KE7EMW reported the current membership stands at 294, and that the RCT Membership package update is nearing completion. He passed around the New Member Booklet which contains our Articles of Incorporation, Bylaws, Standing Rules and other information useful to new members. This version will also benefit from ongoing planned expansion and improvements. New members will receive the current version and all members will receive a one-time distribution as well.

Rick also noted that the entry and processing of last year's survey data is coming along, and pointed out that many responded favorably to our question on interest in attending FEMA emergency procedures courses if taught under Club auspices. Al K7HW researched club members holding ARRL Instructor status for EMCOM training, and will update that information for us.

Election Committee: No report

Hamfest Committee: Linda Adams KE7FKX provided a final and summary report from this year's Hamfest activity. After expenses and retaining a $ 500 start up balance, over $2,000 was deposited to the Club's checking account. There was a discussion of what to do with the Country Store sales receipt books. Bob AD7LJ has a detailed list of the items as well. They should be provided to the Inventory Team to properly account for donated items sold, and then filed with our Donation records.

A motion was made to conduct a close out audit of the Hamfest books as Linda leaves the chairmanship. Motion was seconded and passed. Gary K7UPG agreed to chair and select the team to conduct the audit.

Linda also reminded the Board that she will not head the Hamfest effort next year and that she plans to attend the next Planning meeting to close out this year's Hamfest activity and assist in documenting the "Lessons Learned" .

Linda has also received notice for next year's Mike and Key table reservation which requires response.

A copy of the Hamfest Financial report is attached to the original copy of the minutes.

Planning Committee: Larry KD4VOM reported that the Planning Team has recently been working on the Network configuration planning project; and that the equipment inventory project is on hold until February when the team will again be available. Larry also reported on the Programs Committee meeting which was held on 1 November. There was a discussion on co-chairmanship of the Programs Committee, and it was decided to await an opportunity to hear Ken Gibson N7ELF's views on committee structure and operations. Ken is out of town for a couple of weeks on business.

Standing Rules revision: Larry KD4VOM tabled a proposal to expand and clarify our Awards and Recognition program. Time is short but we can act swiftly to permit this year's selections to meet the new proposed criteria and awards. Copies will be sent by e-mail to all Board members and interested parties.

Facilities Maintenance: Steve KD7UBE Announced that he had been researching and talking to some Roofers to get some estimates on re-roofing the Clubhouse. During the discussion it was recommended that all those working on Club Facilities maintenance needed to coordinate their activities.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

The Donated Trailer: Steve Blacksten KD7UBE has delivered the approved trailer and it is parked behind the clubhouse. The keys and paperwork were delivered to the Secretary. There was a discussion on having a team inspect the trailer, evaluate possible uses and report their findings to the Board. This action was left open. A motion was made to approve reimbursement of the trip permit Steve needed to transport the trailer. Motion was seconded and carried.

Steve advised us that there were several other trailers available if we wanted them, but the Board declined.

NEW BUSINESS:

Handicapped Sign: Steve KD7UBE offered a donated Handicapped sign and post to the club. Motion was made, seconded and passed to accept the donation and install the sign.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Awards Banquet: Larry KD4VOM reminded all that the annual awards Banquet is planned for 8 December at the TACID Building.

Discussion Topics:

Copy Machine: Our copy machine continues to jam, despite Mick KK7QS's replacing and repairing the fuser unit. John AC7WW experienced jams doing the monthly BARK mailing and Rick KE7EMW had a similar experience. Al K7HW suggested it was time to look at our options and perhaps raise funds for a replacement machine the same way as we purchased the video projector used for training and club programs.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:30 pm

General Meeting Minutes
14 November, 2007

The 14 November 2007 Annual Membership meeting was held at the Pierce County Library Administration Building. . President Randy Thompson AD7FF called the meeting to order at 7:29 PM.

Officers and board members present:

President: Randy Thompson -- AD7FF
Vice President: Jill Palmer – K7JIL
Secretary: Larry Watson -- KD4VOM
Treasurer: Gary McFadden – K7UPG
Board Member: Alan Lentz –W7AML
Board Member: Gary McAdams –WG7X
Board Member: Peter Baker – AD7EU
Board Member: Nick Winter – K7MO

A sign in sheet with the names of members and guests is attached. There were 56 names on the attendance roster.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Was led by President Randy Thompson AD7FF

INTRODUCTIONS:

Self introductions were completed

ILLNESS OR SILENT KEY: Jill K7JIL reports that, except for her, we have no reports of illness or silent keys.

SECRETARY'S REPORT: Larry Watson – KD4VOM

Correspondence:

Larry reported the usual bank statements, utility bills, Salmon Run pledges and a notice that the Club's liability insurance policy is coming up for renewal.. *A copy of the current correspondence log is attached to the original copy of the minutes.*

TREASURER'S REPORT: Gary McFadden – K7UPG

Available for review

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Membership: Jill Palmer – K7JIL

Committee:

VE Team: Larry KD4VOM read John Clarke AC7WW's report on the 13 November 2007 VE Session. There were 15 candidates and eight volunteer examiners who graded 25 elements with 15 being passed. Only two candidates did not achieve a new or upgraded license. Seven new Technicians joined the Amateur ranks, four General and two Extra class licenses were earned. Special thanks to Harry, W7HSA; Jon, AD7AW; Joe, W7RQ; Rich, KK7VH; Jim, N7RHX; Steve, AD7AB; and Rich, KR7W for there service as volunteer examiners.

PROGRAM: Worth Gurley W7WG introduced his friend Bruce Franklin K7DYY, who presented a comprehensive introduction to a relatively new and rapidly evolving technology application for Amateur Radio, "Software-Defined Radio" Bruce described the key differences between the conventional Amateur Radio receivers and transmitters, explained how the "software defined radio" differs and uses a computer's sound card very effectively for most of the traditional displays, controls and features. Added benefits include low investment costs for the small and user build able front end hardware, as well as easily available software "console" packages for the sound card management functions. Bruce provided handouts with internet locations for software defined radio information and software. He is currently in the development stages of an improved and broader band coverage version. See more at his website www.k7dyy.com Bruce pointed out that much of his pleasure in this work is the possibility of returning to user construction and use of relatively cheap kits and parts to enjoy our hobby.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

None

NEW BUSINESS:

Election of Officers:

The Election committee completed the annual election ballot count and announced the election results:

Elected Vice President; Jill Palmer K7JIL
Elected Secretary; Larry Watson KD4VOM
Elected Board; Frank Palmer AC7JY
Elected Board; Al Burleson K7HW
Elected Board; Gary Kohtala K7EK

There were 150 valid ballots received and counted.

Welcome to the new officers who take office on 1 January 2008

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Straight Key Night: Rich Patrick KR7W announced that he and Chuck AC7QN are supporting this year's Straight Key night on 31 December beginning around 4 pm and lasting as long as there are folks there. They are once again planning a social event and expect to operate the "Old Oak Rig" aka "Chirpy".

Rich is using this annual special occasion to conduct the Radio Club of Tacoma Museum remodeling Grand Opening. So come, socialize, operate, and just have some fun… Al N7OMS has tentatively agreed to ring the contact bell on the 2 meter net when we make a contact. If you can't come, try to make contact from your shack…

Loggers Certificates: Nick K7MO pitched the recently resurrected Radio Club of Tacoma's Loggers certificate program. This program began in the mid 50's and was very active for years. The criteria is simple; make contact with at least 10 Radio Club of Tacoma active members – any band, any mode, and send the date, time, call of your contacts (10). Nick will verify the information and prepare the award. There are records of members making over 500 contacts in this program, and Logger's certificate endorsements are issued for every additional 10 contacts. (You may only use a club member as a contact once).

Sweepstakes Weekend: Al Ferguson N7OMS announced plans to have the Clubhouse open and operating for most of this weekend. Come on down, and enjoy this major annual contesting event.
Annual Awards Banquet/Christmas Party: Rich N7ANF reminded folks that our annual banquet/potluck is scheduled for 8 December at the TACID building. Bring whatever food you like, the Club will provide ham, turkey and refreshments. Rich is planning to begin setting up around 5:30 pm.

Awards: Larry KD4VOM solicited inputs and recommendations from the membership to identify candidates for recognition. Please provide the name, the award and a brief justification supporting the nomination to any on the Board.

DXpedition: Nick K7MO announced that Harry, K7LAZ will be on Turks and Caicos Is. signing VP5/K7LAZ, he will be participating in the CQWW-CW contest as VP5W with a group of hams from the Seattle area.

Door Prize:
A Wire Stripper door prize was won by our program presenter Bruce K7DYY.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:21pm

General Meeting Minutes
28 November, 2007

The 28 November 2007 Monthly Membership meeting was held at the Pierce County Library Administration Building. . President Randy Thompson AD7FF called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM.

Officers and board members present:

President: Randy Thompson -- AD7FF
Secretary: Larry Watson -- KD4VOM
Treasurer: Gary McFadden – K7UPG
Board Member: Nick Winter – K7MO

A sign in sheet with the names of members and guests is attached. There were 36 names on the attendance roster.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Was led by President Randy Thompson.

INTRODUCTIONS:

Self introductions were completed and Guests welcomed

ILLNESS OR SILENT KEY:

There were no reports of illness or Silent Key

SECRETARY'S REPORT: Larry Watson – KD4VOM

Correspondence: Larry reported the usual utility bills and bank statements along with a notice our Club equipment insurance policy is up for renewal.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Gary McFadden – K7UPG

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

There were no Committee Reports

PROGRAM: Ken Gibson N7ELF

PSK 31 – A Newbie's venture into HF Digital… Ken provided an overview of the new Programs Committee, its first planning meeting and their efforts to provide the club with interesting, educational and entertaining programs.

Ken then presented the results of his interest and research into PSK 31 operations. First through a video presentation which provided essential background necessary to understand the Pulse Shift Key theory and how it is applied to Amateur radio communications. Ken covered the various PSK 31 Software programs available as well as the equipment he assembled for his shack rig. Although band conditions did not permit a live demonstration, Ken had thoughtfully captured an earlier contact and presented it as a video clip to demonstrate the use of the software program and the presentation of PSK signals and text.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

None

NEW BUSINESS:

None

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Annual Awards and Christmas Party:

Loggers Bark Awards Nick K7MO presented Logger's BARK awards to Rick KE7EMW, Harry Adams W7HSA, and has one for Peter AD7EU as well.

Tuning and Traffic

160 Meter CW Contest: Nick K7MO reminded everyone of the 160 meter CW contest this weekend.

K7LAZ DXpediton: Nick K7MO reported that Harry Hudson K7LAZ and team have wrapped up their VP5 DXpedition after racking up enough contacts to place second worldwide.

Worth's Contact Report: Worth reported an interesting contact through the K7PP repeater with K7PP himself and they discovered mutual travel experiences in Japan after WWII. Following their rag chew, KE7GUO Robert Bouck of La Push, hailed Worth and related his entry into the Amateur Radio world as a Quileute Indian Tribe member who was asked to get a Technician's License for tribal emergency communications reasons.

W7AML's Mighty Mo Schedule: Nick Winter K7MO … relayed Al Lentz W7AML's notice that he would be looking for contacts from the USS Missouri in Pearl Harbor (KH6BB) this weekend (Saturday December 1st) from 3 to 4 pm PST on 14.263 SSB and 18.163…

The meeting was adjourned at 9:15 PM

…AND NOW A IMPORTANT MESSAGE ABOUT TOOLS

DRILL PRESS: A tall upright machine useful for suddenly snatching flat metal bar stock out of your hands so that it smacks you in the chest and flings your beer across the room, splattering it against that freshly-stained heirloom piece you were drying.

WIRE WHEEL: Cleans paint off bolts and then throws them somewhere under the workbench with the speed of light. Also removes fingerprints and hard-earned guitar calluses from fingers in about the time it takes you to say, "Yeouw s--t...."

ELECTRIC HAND DRILL: Normally used for spinning pop rivets in their holes until you die of old age.

SKIL SAW: A portable cutting tool used to make studs too short.

PLIERS: Used to round off bolt heads. Sometimes used in the creation of blood-blisters. The tool most often used by all women.

BELT SANDER: An electric sanding tool commonly used to convert minor touch-up jobs into major refinishing jobs.

HACKSAW: One of a family of cutting tools built on the Ouija board principle. It transforms human energy into a crooked, unpredictable motion, and the more you attempt to influence its course, the more dismal your future becomes.

VISE-GRIPS: Generally used after pliers to completely round off bolt heads. If nothing else is available, they can also be used to transfer intense welding heat to the palm of your hand.

WELDING GLOVES: Heavy duty leather gloves used to prolong the conduction of intense welding heat to the palm of your hand.

OXYACETYLENE TORCH: Used almost entirely for lighting various flammable objects in your shop on fire. Also handy for igniting the grease inside the wheel hub you want the bearing race out of.

WHITWORTH SOCKETS: Once used for working on older British cars and motorcycles, they are now used mainly for impersonating that 9/16 or ½ socket you've been searching for, over the last 45 minutes.

TABLE SAW: A large stationary power tool commonly used to launch wood projectiles for testing wall integrity.

HYDRAULIC FLOOR JACK: Used for lowering an automobile to the ground after you have installed your new brake shoes, trapping the jack handle firmly under the bumper.

EIGHT-FOOT LONG YELLOW PINE 4X4: Used for levering an automobile upward off of a trapped hydraulic jack handle.

TWEEZERS: A tool for removing wood splinters and wire wheel wires.

E-Z OUT BOLT AND STUD EXTRACTOR: A tool ten times harder than any known drill bit that snaps neatly off in bolt holes thereby ending any possible future use.

RADIAL ARM SAW: A large stationary power saw primarily used by most shops to scare neophytes into choosing another line of work.

TWO-TON ENGINE HOIST: A tool for testing the maximum tensile strength of everything you forgot to disconnect.

CRAFTSMAN 1/2 x 24-INCH SCREWDRIVER: A very large pry bar that inexplicably has an accurately machined screwdriver tip on the end opposite the handle.

AVIATION METAL SNIPS: See hacksaw.

TROUBLE LIGHT: The home mechanic's own tanning booth. Sometimes called a drop light, it is a good source of vitamin D, "the sunshine vitamin, "which is not otherwise found under cars at night. Health benefits aside, its main purpose is to consume 40-watt light bulbs at about the same rate that 105mm howitzer shells might be used during, say, the first few hours of the Battle of the Bulge. More often dark than light, its name is somewhat misleading. The accessory socket within the base has been permanently rendered useless, unless requiring a source of 117vac power to shock the mechanic senseless.

PHILLIPS SCREWDRIVER: Normally used to stab the vacuum seals under lids, opening old-style paper-and-tin oil cans and splashing oil on your shirt; but can also be used, as the name implies, to strip out Phillips screw heads. Women excel at using this tool.

STRAIGHT SCREWDRIVER: A tool for opening paint cans. Sometimes used to convert common slotted screws into non-removable screws.

AIR COMPRESSOR: A machine that takes energy produced in a coal-burning power plant 200 miles away and transforms it into compressed air that travels by hose to a Chicago Pneumatic impact wrench that grips rusty bolts which were last over tightened 30 years ago by someone at Ford, and instantly rounds off their heads.
Also used to quickly snap off lug nuts.

PRY BAR: A tool used to crumple the metal surrounding that clip or bracket you needed to remove in order to replace a 50 cent part.

HOSE CUTTER: A tool used to make hoses too short.

HAMMER: Originally employed as a weapon of war, the hammer nowadays is used as a kind of divining rod to locate the most expensive parts adjacent to the object we are trying to hit. Primarily used to make gaping holes in walls when hanging pictures.

MECHANIC'S KNIFE: Used to open and slice through the contents of cardboard cartons delivered to your front door; works particularly well on contents such as seats, vinyl records, liquids in plastic bottles, collector magazines, refund checks, and rubber or plastic parts. Especially useful for slicing work clothes, but only while in use. It is also useful for removing large chunks of human flesh from the user's hands.

DAMMIT TOOL: Any handy tool that you grab and throw across the garage while yelling "**DAMMIT!!**" at the top of your lungs. It is also, most often, the next tool that you will need.

Ham Radio Why?

By Al N7OMS

A year after Sue and I had moved to University Place from Graham, she asked me why I am involved in Ham Radio. That was a period of my life when I was just getting more active with the Radio Club of Tacoma. I would come home from a Saturday gathering or a membership meeting all excited about this project or that idea. Her question took me aback a bit and I needed a little time to answer.

I gave her an overview of all the different technologies and then something about talking to different places all over the world including space and even referred to the social side, like the club meetings and potlucks. She was satisfied with my answer but the question still sticks with me several years later. I got another part of my answer last weekend (November 17 & 18th). That was the weekend that the Mighty DK worked the ARRL Sweepstakes SSB contest. Overall it was a success, we worked 76 of the 80 sections. Not a clean sweep, but pretty good by my standards. Several people pulled together to make this happen with others stopping by to lend their support.

Many thanks to everyone involved. The highlight was seeing Pete KK7QW, one of the club's finest CW operators, work a few for the Mighty DK. He even seemed to enjoy the experience. I hope he will return for more. But back to the part of my answer I uncovered that weekend. For me Ham Radio is about the opportunity to learn. There is so much that I can learn about so many things. This time it was about contesting. Contesters are not born, except maybe Nick K7MO, but instead need to learn many skills.

I'm just a novice at contesting but will keep after it and it's good to know that I can turn to Radio Club of Tacoma members for guidance. My contest mentor Gary W7GX mentioned a good contest in December to try. That would be the ARRL 10-meter contest held December 8-9, 2007. We have a couple of bugs to work out but the Mighty DK should be on the air for this one. What a great Saturday, ham radio contesting during the day and the Radio Club's Christmas party in the evening.

There were several requests for the recipe that my wife made for the Salmon Run Potluck so with the kind help of the Bark Editor it should be in this issue of the Bark

Flat Apple Pie

2 ½ cups flour
½ tsp. salt
1 cup shortening
1 egg yolk and milk to make ⅔ cup (reserve egg white)
8 – 10 apples, thinly sliced (can also use berries)
Cornflakes
1 cup sugar
Cinnamon
Butter

Frosting: ¾ cup powdered sugar, few drops vanilla and milk to thin

Cut shortening into flour and salt. Make well in center, add milk mixture. Toss lightly and divide in halves. Roll and fit half to bottom of greased 11" x 17" pan with edges. Sprinkle with 3-4 handfuls cornflakes. Add apples and sprinkle with 1 cup or more sugar and cinnamon to taste. Dot with butter. Roll second portion of dough and fit on top. Beat egg white until stiff and spread over entire top crust.
Bake 45-60 minutes at 375°. Drizzle frosting over crust while pie is still hot.

Dateline: December 2007

Sparky's "View from the Shack"

This and that, around the club, and more…

These articles are intended to browse through recent activities and coming events of possible interest to the Radio Club of Tacoma members. It will of course by design and intent be informal and attempt to record some of the Club's activities that might otherwise go unnoticed.

So, with little fanfare and less expectations, to infinity, and beyond…

A little editorial philosophy

While there occasionally may be reason and rhyme as we go along, the goal is to ramble through the many and varied activities of the Club and its members as we take another trip around the sun.

"Sparky" welcomes comments, ideas and letters to "The RCT View", but reserves the right to procrastinate, and generally ignore social engineering or cranky inputs.

- *That sed, we cast off on a voyage through uncharted waters.*

- *Elections are over and...*
- *Programs, we want them, we need them, A new team is formed?*
- *Around the Shack…,*
- *The Antique Demo Team maintains a tradition*
- *Straight Key and Museum Renovation*

"Elections are over and...

Sparky was really pleased to see the turnout for the Nominations meeting in October, one of the largest general meeting attendances this year. Shows many folks do care about being heard when it comes to selecting our leadership. In November, the election ballots were counted and the results announced…

Re-elected to Vice President, Jill Palmer K7JIL
Re-elected to Secretary, Larry Watson KD4VOM
Elected to the Board, Al Burleson K7HW
Elected to the Board, Fran Palmer AC7JY
Elected to the Board, Gary Kohtala K7EK

150 ballots were received and counted. It was good to have competition and choices for the leadership positions, but now that the elections are over, it's time to put the competition behind us and support our new officers in their work to continue the legacy of excellence that the Radio Club of Tacoma has represented for over 90 years...

" Programs, we want them, we need them, a new team is formed

By now most of you know that a major increase in workload for Nick K7MO has forced him reluctantly to give up several club management jobs. Besides a sabbatical from the Planning Team, Nick has left his Board position and must also give up the Club's Program Manager task. Sparky notes that our programs are part of the reason many belong to the club, and suspects that there may be someone out there who would enjoy and excel at putting together programs of interest to us all. The bar has been set high by the sustained and outstanding record left us by Silent Key Jerry W7BUN and continued by Nick. Sparky for sure has enjoyed having a Program at almost every regular meeting, even though the Club rules only require one meeting a month. In recent years, we've been spoiled by a rich and diversified array of interesting Programs ranging from highly technical to just fun.

Ken Gibson N7ELF has stepped up to co-chair the Programs Team, which held its first meeting on November 1st and is busy building a program plan for 2008.

Those who attended the 14 November meeting witnessed a great program by Bruce Franklin K7DYY Who delivered a great presentation on the rapidly evolving "Software Defined Radio". Sparky is expecting great things from this effort to make our meetings exciting, informative and interesting… Stay tuned...

Around the Shack...

As always, the view from around the Shack has been busy… It's nice to have Rich N7ANF back at the helm of the Weekly Open House and of course engaged in planning this year's annual Awards Banquet. Rich says this year its going to be on December 8th at the TACID building (Same location as year before last) Sparky thinks this is a good point to remind folks that we need to recognize our "Most Valuable Players" and the annual Awards Banquet is the place and time to do that. Send your nominees along with a brief statement of why you think the person should be recognized and get the recommendations to someone on the Board soon so they have time to consider all the candidates for recognition. Sparky sends an "Atta boy" to Al Ferguson N7OMS and Al Burleson K7HW who made temporary repairs to our gutters which were literally falling away from the building, and none too soon. The October storm would have probably taken them down for sure.
Thanks to Jill K7JIL and Frank AC7JY for the "Fall Potluck honoring our lifetime and honorary members. Sparky couldn't make it, but perhaps someone has photos for the next BARK to pass along...

The Antique Radio Team Maintains a Tradition

Recently a stalwart crew from the Radio Club of Tacoma packed up our banner and assembled a fine array of antique and unusual amateur radio gear to take to the North Kitsap Swap Meet. Morel W7WG tells Sparky that this has been a venerable Club tradition for many years and this year was no exception. The crew gathered up at the Clubhouse on Saturday morning at around 7:30 am loaded gear and convoyed (there must be a 10– something CB number for that) to the Kitsap County Fairgrounds and set up shop. Always welcome and always fun, here's a few shots supplied by our intrepid expedition photographer documenting the "rest of the story".

Al, N7OMS tells me that the clubhouse repair and improvement projects will be posted to the website and will begin as soon as we can get ready.

Fall Sweepstakes…

Rich K7RW and Chuck AC7QN sponsored the Club's annual participation in the ARRL Sweepstakes contest. Folks came and went over the two day event as Gary WG7X demonstrated a flawless technique, despite the sun cycle constraints. Contests are always a great opportunity to mix it up, learn a bit, try your technique and just have some fun…

Straight Key night is coming…

Mark your calendars, for December 31st, when we once again join Rich KR7W, Chuck AC7QN, Morel K7LIX, Worth W7WG to participate in the annual "Straight Key" night. This year will be special because it is also the Grand Re-opening of the W7OS Antique Radio Museum which has underwent major renovation.

Sparky

"Hard work pays off in the future, Laziness pays off now." - Larry the Cable Guy

SHACK OF THE MONTH
THIS MONTH: W7EXC

The shack of the month for December 2007 comes from Bob, W7EXC.

If you want your shack to be in the showcase, simply sent the photo to "thebark@comcast.net"

Your shack can look good too!

VE REPORT John AC7WW

Tuesday evening, November 13th 2007, 15 candidates and eight volunteer examiners were present at the Radio Club of Tacoma's clubhouse. The VE's graded 25 elements with 15 being passed. Two candidates did not leave with a new license or an upgrade. Seven new Technicians joined the Amateur ranks, four General and two Extra class licenses were earned.

Thanks to the following volunteer examiners for their time:

Harry, W7HSA
Jon, AD7AW
Jim, N7RHX
Rich, KR7W
Joe, W7RQ
Rich, KK7VH
Steve, AD7AB

Happy Birthday December

Day	Full Name Familiar	Call	RCT Number
2	Christopher Rose	**KF6SNJ**	2086
3	Hal Stahlhut	**W7EC**	673
4	Joe Douglas	**KC7FF**	2064
5	Roy Brooks	**W7RTB**	1926
6	Frank Palmer	**AC7JY**	1992
14	Bill Drum Jr	**KJ7KT**	1213
15	Jack Moore	**WA7ENB**	729
16	Jim Swanson	**WA7JIM**	2155
16	Ken Scott	**KB7UXT**	1603
16	Rob Stewart	**WB7QCS**	1181
18	Doug Smith	**W7ZZ**	768
19	Dee Patton	**KE7BBZ**	2315
20	Sandy Newhouse	**KD7HYT**	2060
21	Randy Myers	**WB4SPB**	2050
26	Joel Lydy	**KC7CKC**	2343
28	Chuck Souter	**KA7HJN**	1924

The Radio Club of Tacoma's

Logger's Bark

The Logger's Bark **is the *OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE RADIO CLUB OF TACOMA*… and is published by W7DK Press, PO Box 11188, Tacoma, WA 98411. The Radio Club of Tacoma is a non-profit corporation as defined by law, and all proceeds will be used exclusively for charitable and educational purposes. The Radio Club of Tacoma's Club House is located at 1249 Washington St, Tacoma, WA 98411, phone: 253-759-2040.**

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The Fine Print: The Logger's Bark is published once a month for the membership of The Radio Club of Tacoma or interested ham radio enthusiasts. The Bark is delivered by PDF file on the club's website: www.w7dk.org. RCT Members with limited/no internet access may request that a condensed, paper copy be mailed to their home address. Please contact Rick Rose – KE7EMW at (253) 581-7673 or RCT-Membership@comcast.net to request The Logger's Bark home-delivery.

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Membership Info: **FULL (licensed) and ASSOCIATE (non licensed) is $30 per calendar year. $25 for Licensed Seniors (65 and over). Licensed family members at same address pay $15 each for the first two and are free for the third, fourth, and so on. Fulltime students, licensed or non licensed, up to age 25 are $15 per year. Note: fees are applicable for the calendar year: Jan to Dec. Lifetime membership is 20 times the yearly fee you are eligible for.. Lifetime memberships are calculated based on the FULL and ASSOCIATE rates.**

RADIO CLUB REPEATERS

Central Tacoma: 147.280 + PL=103.5 RCT Packet 144.91
Crawford Mountain (SE Thurston County) 147.380 + PL=103.5
Central Tacoma 440.625 + PL=103.5

THE LOGGER'S BARK
Radio Club of Tacoma, Inc.
P.O. Box 11188
Tacoma, WA 98411

TO RCT MEMBER:

DECEMBER 2007 EVENTS

Club Meetings: Wednesdays December 12th and 26th at the library Administration building at 7:30 PM, 112th & Waller road. Everyone is invited to attend.

Board Meeting, Wednesday December 5th 7:30 PM at the. Clubhouse - All members welcome.

License Testing - Tuesday, December 11th 7:00 PM at the RCT clubhouse.

BARK deadline - Last week-end of every month.. PLEASE get articles, columns, etc. in by that time!

- Support OUR club - Attend meetings, volunteer, Elmer.
- Check in to the 2-meter Net every Tuesday night at 7:30, on 147.28. Hear additional information on programs and other events.
- Check in on the 10 Meter Net every Sunday evening, 8 PM, on 28.375 MHz USB